

MR. MEYER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

KALAE, MOLOKAI, March 26, 1884.

His Excellency WALTER M. GIBSON,
President of the Board of Health, Honolulu.

DEAR SIR:—As Agent of the Board of Health, I consider it my duty to correct certain statements made by Dr. Stallard, for purposes best known to himself, which, if not corrected, are apt to produce wrong impressions.

The doctor is a stranger, totally unacquainted, not only with the wants, habits, prejudices, and language of Hawaiians, but also of the available means to provide supplies with, and with the difficulties and possibilities of obtaining them at all times; and it would have been far wiser and more satisfactory to inform himself on all these points before using such language as "gross neglect of the Administration," and then to charge the Administration with the appearance at the Settlement of an epidemic dysentery and diarrhoea, which has been raging equally violently on the whole island of Molokai, on part of Maui, and probably also on Oahu, and causing a great many deaths.

The doctor asserts that lepers of the Settlement do not die of leprosy, but from starvation, diarrhoea, and dysentery, caused by not being fed entirely on beef, but partly on salmon and spoiled poi.

Through the Administration, the doctor says all the natural advantages of the place had been destroyed, and the excessive death-rate alone condemns the Administration.

In answer to these assertions, I would say that no natural advantages have been destroyed; the isolation is the same, the Settlement is bounded by the same pali—it has the same rich soil, and everything that was centuries ago; and it is very hard to see what natural advantages of the place can possibly be destroyed.

With regard to the death-rate, what rate may be expected? Has the doctor any facts or basis which justifies him to call the death-rate of 1883—150 deaths—excessive, or is it a mere assertion?

Lepers sent to the Settlement have generally been in the advanced stages, and, under the most favorable conditions, the average duration of the length of their lives has barely reached five years.

There have been many lepers who had friends and means to attain the very best of living, and not one of them exceeded this period. As instances, I will mention the names of a few: W. Williamson, Pickford (English), Boehle, Ernstberger (German), David Ostrum, Marsden (Am.), W. Ragsdale, Mr. and Mrs. Napela, Mrs. Tallant, Mrs. Hannah Louis, W. Humphries, and his sister, William Crowning-burgh and brother, and Charles Crowning-burgh (half-whites), Peter Kaeo, Nakuina, Kahookuli, Kahule, I. Kanakaole, and many others.

Now then, if the average duration of life has proved to be barely five years, it is very easy to answer the question, how many should die annually out of from 600 to 800 lepers; and it must also be considered that lepers may die of other causes as well as other people.

From the above it appears that the death-rate cannot be less than 150 per annum. It is true the lepers have not received a continuous supply of beef, but have partly received the very best of salmon which could be got. During the first two years of the Settlement, the lepers received salt beef and salmon only, and it has not caused them any inconvenience. After this, they received, for several years, mutton, and after the mutton, beef only up to within ten or twelve months, when, owing to a scarcity of cattle, a constant supply could not be provided, and salmon was alternated with beef—one week beef and one week salmon. Each leper receives 7 pounds of beef per week, or 3 pounds of salmon.

This has been kept up regularly, with the exception of one week during January of the present year, when salmon was given twice in succession; it was owing to a continual spell of rain, that cattle could not be got to the settlement. No complaints by any of the lepers have been made on beef being alternated with salmon. The doctor's remark—that during a week when there was a partial supply of beef, and this being probably consumed by officials—is quite uncalled for; it is officious and untrue. Officials receive no more than others—each one receives but one ration.

The doctor states that the best medical authorities condemn salmon as being entirely unfit for the use of lepers. To this I beg to say that medical authorities very often differ, their decrees are changeable and, therefore, not reliable—and the best of medical men acknowledge that but very little is known concerning leprosy—and it

is too soon to assert that this or that is injurious or beneficial.

Before, however, salmon was given out to lepers last year, the opinion of three medical men was obtained. Dr. Fitch was asked, in presence of Father Damien and Mr. Strawn; he gave it as his opinion, that such a change—giving half beef, half salmon—would be rather beneficial than otherwise. Drs. Trouseau and Brodie both thought that such a change would produce no harm.

When lepers receive beef only, they always import large quantities of salt salmon themselves, and will eat it anyway; and it appears that no complaints on this score (having to eat salmon) were made to the doctor, or else he would have been particular to mention it. It is not likely, either, that salmon which they buy themselves and eat, should be less hurtful than when they receive it from the Board.

If it is the salt which is supposed to be so injurious, I must state that the natives generally extract the greater portion of this, and then eat it with their poi, which contains no salt. When natives eat beef they generally use a great quantity of salt, or else they do not relish it. Each leper receives 5 lbs. of salt per month.

The natural diet of Hawaiians is fish and poi or potatoes. On this diet they have lived for centuries past, and become strong; and they prefer this diet to any other, and should have it. Every attempt of obtaining a constant supply of fresh fish has thus far proved a failure; the supply is too partial, irregular, and unreliable.

The only complaint then made to the doctor, as he himself says, was on account of the irregularity and insufficiency of the poi supply. The doctor further states that much of it had to be baked over again in order to make it eatable at all, and that spoiled poi with the salmon were the cause of the prevailing epidemic.

That the prevailing epidemic has not been caused by it is sufficiently known to almost everybody.

But the lepers never had to eat any spoiled poi; not sufficient of it could be obtained and brought to allow it to spoil, and about one-half the time they had to eat bread. They do not care for rice; bread they like, but it does not satisfy them; they eat it as we would a piece of cake or pie. And whenever the poi supplies fail, there are always some who will complain; but the great majority, knowing the cause of this irregularity, are satisfied that it is only transient, never say a word—they know it cannot be helped.

At the time of the doctor's visit, March 4th, there were about 760 lepers; and between February 24th and February 29th, 1,055 bundles of fresh poi were brought in, of which 589 bundles were issued right away, leaving the balance of 466 bundles for the week following; what chance then, had this poi to spoil? Poi is an article which may, very soon after it is made, become a little sour, and it is almost always in this state that people living in the country receive it. Careful natives now bake this over, the fermentation is arrested, and it becomes not only perfectly sweet, but it will also keep a considerable length of time. Every Hawaiian, and many foreigners know this. Natives however, prefer sour poi to fresh; they never eat it until sour. During the few winter months—especially January and February—poi cannot always be made on account of rainy weather; and sometimes when it is made it cannot be brought on account of heavy sea and inability of landing; and at such times it may occur that poi becomes a week old before it reaches the settlement; but it is imperative it must be received, not only on account of justice to the poi dealers, but the natives crave for it, and would rather have it if ever so old than to eat rice or bread. Whenever potatoes can be had they are bought; but no reliance can be placed on any considerable supply. Some seasons they are productive but very often not, and when the lepers have an abundance of potatoes, they ferment them secretly to make intoxicating drinks with, and often cause no small amount of disturbance.

(To be continued.)

THANKS.

The members of Geo. W. DeLong Post will ever bear in grateful remembrance the generous response of the people of Honolulu to every request made of them for assistance in our efforts to do fitting honor to the memory of America's Patriot Dead. In many instances we had no need even to suggest, for your willing hearts and generous thoughts outran our requests. Where an entire community has thus so willingly aided a noble cause, it seems almost invidious to single out individuals for special mention; and yet, on behalf of my comrades, I wish to express our grate-

ful thanks to His Majesty the King for his generous gift of cannon for our burial lot, and for the honor of his presence at our memorial services; to the Governor of Oahu, Hon. J. O. Dominis, for the services of the Royal Hawaiian Band, and the honor of his presence; to the ladies of the floral committee for their invaluable services, and whose deft hands and untiring efforts made our floral offerings so beautiful and complete; and to those who contributed such a profusion of rare and beautiful flowers, and wrought them into such appropriate emblems, and especially to Miss Hessie Dickson and Mr. Ordenstein; to Mr. W. G. Irwin and John D. Spreckels for the use of the Music Hall; to the Royal Hawaiian Band, the Honolulu Symphony Club, and Professor Yarnley and his choir for the music which so carried the hearts of the people by storm; to Mrs. B. F. Dillingham for her able and appropriate poem, and to Mr. W. R. Kinney for his recitation, so admirably done that it inspired the audience with patriotic enthusiasm. To Fort Street Church for the interesting memorial service on Sunday evening; to the good ships Alameda, Abbie Carver and Beulah, and many citizens for the use of flags, etc., for decorating; to Mr. Stratemeyer for invaluable assistance in decorating; to the finance committee, and those who responded to their call; to B. F. Dillingham & Co., Lewers & Cooke, E. O. Hall & Son, Frank Hustace, and the American Express Co. for valuable favors; to the Honorable Hawaiian Legislature for adjourning over the afternoon of Friday, and to our merchants and others who closed their places of business at our request; to the daily and weekly Press for their complete and admirable reports of our services, and for the generous and free use of their columns; to Mr. Dodd for sprinkling the line of march; and to many others who helped to make the Memorial Services of 1884 such a marked success, whose names are all written in our hearts, and whose generous deeds will ever be cherished in our memories on behalf of Geo. W. DeLong Post, I tender sincere thanks.

J. A. CRUZAN.

Chairman Committee of Arrangements. P.S.—Were Comrade Hartwell not a member of our Post, mention would be made of his admirable oration; but if I should begin to mention the members of the Post who generously aided in the observance of the day, it would result in a roll-call; but we are proud of our orator.

J. A. C.

Honolulu, May 31, 1884.

POLICE COURT.

BEFORE POLICE-JUSTICE BICKERTON.

SATURDAY, May 31, 1884.

Kailiana, charged with assault and battery on the person of Elena (w) on the 29th inst. pleaded guilty, under provocation. Fined \$5, and costs \$3.

Ah Sing, charged with having opium in his possession, on the 28th instant, remanded on the 29th instant, pleaded not guilty. Mr. J. M. Davidson appeared for the defendant. Found guilty, and fined \$50, and costs \$1.30, and sentenced to one month's imprisonment at hard labor.

CIVIL CASES.

Wilder's Steamship Company vs. Emeka, on charge of deserting contract service, pleaded guilty, and ordered to return to employers: costs, \$7.

MONDAY, May 30th, 1884.

Nine cases of drunkenness were called for. In five cases bail of \$5 each was forfeited; two fined \$5 each, and one, an old offender, sentenced to 7 days' imprisonment at hard labor.

Wm. Kaiou forfeited \$10 for disturbing the quiet of night.

Two foreigners remanded on separate charges of assault and battery.

TUESDAY, May 29th, 1884.

Kaulukou was charged with larceny of a kit of salmon from the steamer C. R. Bishop. Remanded.

Geo. Harrigan was found guilty of disturbing the quiet of night and fined \$5.

A *nolle pros.* was entered in the case of Ed Gelgy, charged with assault and battery.

Sam Beckford entered a plea of not guilty to a charge of assault on one Kau, (w.) Found guilty and fined \$5.

CIVIL CASES.

MONDAY, May 30, 1884.

A. T. Baker vs. Michael Maurice. Trover for a horse, or \$200. Judgment for defendant; Costs \$4.25.

Ah Kim vs. E. R. Hendry. Action for wages—\$9. Mr. John Russell for plaintiff; Mr. Austin for defendant. After occupying the attention of the Court for a considerable time, judgment was rendered for the defendant. Costs \$4.75.

S. Cohn & Co. vs. G. Riedell. No appearance for defendant. Judgment for plaintiff for amount claimed and costs \$3.70.

Three cases settled out of Court and two continued by consent.

WEDNESDAY, June 4.

Five cases of drunkenness were presented, in each of which the usual fine or forfeiture was mulcted.

Miriam Keau was charged with deserting

her husband. Remanded until 6th instant. James Keau, charged with disorderly conduct. Remanded until the 6th instant.

Kaulukou, convicted of stealing a kit of salmon from the steamer C. R. Bishop, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment at hard labor.

CIVIL CASES.

THURSDAY, June 5th, 1884.

Mathias Gray vs. Lycan & Co. Assumpsit for \$152 92. Mr. W. A. Kinney for plaintiff; Mr. W. R. Castle for defendant. On defendant paying into Court \$94 89, judgment was rendered in his favor. Appeal noted.

SPORTING NOTES.

The nominations for the Kohala Club Cup closed on Wednesday last. The following were the entries:

James Campbell's sorrel gelding Godfrey B.
J. A. Cummins' black gelding Stanford Colt
Charles Lucas' grey gelding Poni Moi
H. J. Agnew's black filly Idle Girl
W. H. Cornwell's grey stallion Waterford
Charles A. Bailey's bay stallion General Hancock
Messrs. Miles Brothers' bay gelding Snap.

The following is the pedigree of Captain Cator. Foaled in April, 1870; died May 31st, 1884: Captain Cator, by General Grant, dam Hattie Gordon. Said mare was bred in Kentucky, and imported to California in 1859.

Pedigree of General Grant: General Grant, by imported Oregon, dam imported Lady Ellenor, a thorough-bred mare from Sydney.

ORIGIN OF THE PHRASE "THE DARK HORSE."—This is one of the most familiar and oft-quoted phrases. Especially does it resound in our ears immediately preceding political conventions; and when there is much personal and political antagonism between the principal candidates, the dark horse is generally pretty sure to win. The New York *Sportsman* gives what purports to be an authentic account of the origin of the phrase, and as the story is good, and not very long, we will give it *verbatim*:

"Years ago there lived in Tennessee an old chap named Sam Flynn, who traded in horses, and generally contrived to own a speedy nag or two, which he used for racing purposes whenever he could pick up a 'soft match' during his travels. The best of his flyers was a coal-black stallion named Dusky Pete, who was almost a thorough-bred, and able to go in the best of company. Flynn was accustomed to straddle Pete when approaching a town, and ride him into it to give the impression that the animal was merely a 'likely horse,' and a fast stepper. One day he came to a town where was a country race-meeting, and he entered Pete among the contestants. The people of the town, not knowing anything of his antecedents, and not being over-impressed by his appearance, backed two or three local favorites heavily against him. Just as the 'flyers' were being saddled for the race, old Judge McMinance, who was the turf oracle of that part of the State, arrived on the course, and was made one of the judges. As he took his place on the stand he was told how the betting ran, and the folly of the owner of the strange entry in backing his 'plug' so heavily. Running his eye over the track, the judge instantly recognized Pete, and said: 'Gentlemen, there's a dark horse in this race that will make some of you sick before supper.' The judge was right. Pete, the 'dark horse,' lay back until the three-quarter pole was reached, when he went to the front with a rush, and won the purse and Flynn's bets with the greatest ease."

"WHAT'S HIS NUMBER?"—These three little words, when put in this form and applied to stallions, have a peculiar force and significance. This is the time of year when we meet with flaming advertisements of stallions seeking patronage, and although something has been accomplished towards improving the morals of these advertisements, many of them still abound in the most glaring untruths. It used to be the practice for everybody to represent his horse as a "thoroughbred," no difference whether he was a draft horse, a road horse, or a race horse. This practice is now broken up, except it be among the extremely ignorant, and we have now the phrase "standard bred" instead of "thoroughbred." Now, if he is standard bred, he is registered and has a number, and all that has to be done to test the truth of the claim is to ask, "What's His Number?" There are many excellent and useful horses that are not standard bred trotters, and in many cases they may be better for getting general purpose stock than some that are standard; but where a man claims that his horse is

a standard bred trotter, call upon him for his number, and if he cannot give it, you had better keep away from him. Of all the methods ever tried, nothing has been half so effective in checking fraud, and bringing out the truth, as the plan of numbering standard stallions. It is now understood and adopted all over the country, and the three little words, "What's His Number?" are comprehended, in all their significance, from Nova Scotia to Oregon.

DOCKING OF HORSES.—The following paragraph, relating to the docking of horses, we clip from the *Irish Farmers' Gazette*:

"At a meeting of the Irish Central Veterinary Medical Society, held at the Royal Dublin Society on the 9th inst.—Mr. M. Pallin, F.R.C.V.S., in the chair—the question of the docking of horses was brought forward for discussion, and a resolution was unanimously adopted 'That the members of this society consider the operation of docking to be a necessary and a justifiable one; and comparatively painless, when performed by qualified veterinary surgeons.' Such an expression of opinion coming from such a distinguished body of veterinary surgeons, ought to dispose of the sentimental grievance which is maintained by some well-meaning persons, who are mainly, we take leave to assert, of a class who know very little about the matter. We believe that the maximum of comfort and safety, in dealing with harness horses especially, is obtained at the cost of the slightest minimum of pain to the animal when the operation is performed by a skilled surgeon."

KAWAIAHAO SEMINARY EXAMINATIONS.

The following is the order of exercises that took place Thursday at Kawaiahao Seminary:

MORNING.

SCHOOL ROOM.—9-9:30.—4th Primary Arithmetic Miss Brewer. 9:30-10.—Arithmetic, 1st year Gram mar, Miss Julia Kawehiwehi. 10-10:30.—3rd year Grammar, Arithmetic, Miss Brewer. 10:30-11.—3rd year Grammar, Reading, Miss Brewer. 11-11:30.—Hawaiian History, Miss Chamberlain.

LIBRARY.—9-9:30.—Zoology, Mrs. Simpson. 9:30-10.—U. S. History, Mrs. Simpson. 10-10:30.—Bot any, Mrs. Simpson. 10:30-11.—1st year Grammar, Reading, Mrs. Simpson. 11-11:30.—U. S. History, Miss Brewer.

SEWING ROOM.—9:30 3rd Primary Arithmetic, Miss Flaxman. 9:30-10.—Reading, Miss Flaxman. 10-10:30.—Spelling, Miss Flaxman. 10:30-11.—Object Lesson, Miss Flaxman. 11-11:30.—4th Primary Geography and Language Lessons, Miss Julia Kawehiwehi.

11:30-12.—General exercise in School Room; Bible Exercise; Rhetorics; Singing.
From 9 to 11 A. M. Kindergarten Exercises, Children's Class Room, Miss West.

AFTERNOON.

1 P. M.—Singing.
1:10-1:20.—4th Primary Reading, Mrs. Simpson.
1:20-1:40.—Geography, Miss Flaxman.
1:40-1:50.—Composition and Singing.
1:50-2:10.—Arithmetic, 2nd Grammar, Miss Julia Kawehiwehi.
2:10-2:35.—Language Lessons, Miss Chamberlain.
2:35-2:45.—Kindergarten Exercises, Miss West.
2:45-3:10.—Physics, Miss Brewer.
3:10-3:20.—Rapid Mental Arithmetic, Miss Brewer.
3:20-3:30.—Compositions and Recitations.
3:30-4.—Spelling Match.
4-4:30.—Gymnastics & Wand Exercises on the Lawn.

HEALTH REPORT.

MORTUARY REPORT FOR MAY, 1884.

The total number of deaths reported for the month of May was 54, distributed as follows:

Under 1 year.....	7	From 30 to 40.....	8
From 1 to 5.....	3	From 40 to 50.....	4
From 5 to 10.....	2	From 50 to 60.....	7
From 10 to 20.....	1	From 60 to 70.....	6
From 20 to 30.....	9	Over 70.....	7

Males.....	35	Females.....	19
Hawaiians.....	25	Great Britain.....	0
Chinese.....	1	United States America.....	7
Portuguese.....	1	Other Nationalities.....	0
South Sea Islands.....	0		

CAUSE OF DEATH.

Asthma.....	2	Exhaustion.....	1
Beriberi.....	4	Fever.....	5
Consumption.....	12	Leprosy.....	1
Croup.....	1	Old Age.....	4
Dysentery.....	3	Opium.....	1
Dropsy.....	3	Paralysis.....	4
Debility.....	2	Pneumonia.....	2
Disease of Lungs.....	1	Unknown.....	2

Total.....54
Unattended.....17

COMPARATIVE MONTHLY MORTALITY.

May, 1878, deaths.....	43	May, 1882, deaths.....	51
May, 1879, deaths.....	56	May, 1883, deaths.....	53
May, 1880, deaths.....	47	May, 1884, deaths.....	54
May, 1881, deaths.....	58		

DEATHS BY WARDS FOR MONTH.

Ward, 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	
Deaths 3 4 7 3 1 4 4 13 2 2 1 1	
Outside.....	11

NOTE:—Ten of the above were non-residents.

JOHN H. BROWN,
Agent Board of Health.

SICKNESS IN SCHOOLS.

DURING MONTH OF MAY, 1884.

SCHOOLS.	SCHOLARS.	SICK.	PER CENTAGE OF SICKNESS.
Fort St.....	163	3	1.84
Royal.....	335	4	1.17
Pohukaina.....	117	0	
St. Albans.....	66	0	
St. Louis.....	232	3	1.29
Preparatory.....	103	3	7.76

Scholars absent three or more consecutive days on account of sickness, or alleged sickness, are reported sick.